Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An orally deliverable pharmaceutical composition comprising a drug of low water solubility and a pregelatinized starch, ~~having low viscosity and/or exhibiting a multimodal particle size distribution, said pregelatinized starch selected on the basis of determination of low viscosity and/or a particle size test~~ wherein the pregelatinized starch exhibits (a) a shear stress of not more than about 1 Pa at a shear rate of 20 s^{-1}, and (b) optionally, a multimodal particle size distribution.

2. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 that is in a form of a tablet or capsule.

3. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the drug is a selective cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitory drug.

4. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3 wherein the selective cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitory drug is selected from the group consisting of celecoxib, deracoxib, valdecoxib, rofecoxib, etoricoxib, ~~2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-cyclopenten-1-one, 2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methyl-1-butoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3-(2H)-pyridazinon- e,~~ 2-(3,5-difluorophenyl)-3-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-2-cyclopenten-1-one, 2-(3,4-difluorophenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-3-methyl-1-butoxy)-5-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]-3-(2H)-pyridazinone, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrugs thereof.

5. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 3 wherein the selective cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitory drug is valdecoxib.

6. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 5 that is in the form of a tablet or capsule, wherein the valdecoxib is present in an amount of about 1 mg to about 100 mg.

7. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 6 wherein the valdecoxib is present in an amount of about 5 mg to about 40 mg.

8. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 5 wherein the valdecoxib has a D_{90} particle size less than about 75 μm.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~9~~ **1** wherein the ~~**pregelatimzed**~~ **pregelatinized** starch further exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 2 Pa at a shear rate of 60 s^{-1}.

11. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10 wherein the pregelatinized starch further exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 3 Pa at a shear rate of 100 s^{-1}.

12. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the pregelatinized starch exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 0.75 Pa at a shear rate of 20 s^{-1}.

13. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 12 wherein the pregelatinized starch further exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 1.5 Pa at a shear rate of 60 s^{-1}.

14. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 13 wherein the pregelatinized starch further exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 2.5 Pa at a shear rate of 100 s^{-1}.

15. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the pregelatinized starch exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 0.5 Pa at a shear rate of 20 s^{-1}.

16. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 15 wherein the pregelatinized starch further exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 1 Pa at a shear rate of 60 s^{-1}.

17. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 16 wherein the pregelatinized starch further exhibits a shear stress of not more than about 1.5 Pa at a shear rate of 100 s^{-1}.

18. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the pregelatinized starch exhibits a multimodal particle size distribution.

19. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the pregelatinized starch exhibits a bimodal particle size distribution.

20. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the starch is present in an amount of about 1% to about 50% by weight of the composition.

21. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the starch is present in an amount of about 2.5% to about 30% by weight of the composition.

22. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 that is in a form of a tablet, further comprising one or more diluents in an amount of about 5% to about 99%,

one or more disintegrants in an amount of about 0.2% to about 30%, and one or more lubricants in an amount of about 0.1% to about 10%, by weight of the composition.

23. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1 that is in a form of a tablet, further comprising one or more excipients selected from the group consisting of lactose monohydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium and magnesium stearate.

24. (Withdrawn) A process for preparing an orally deliverable pharmaceutical composition, the process comprising a step of selecting a pregelatinized starch ~~having low viscosity and/or exhibiting a multimodal particle size profile~~ **exhibiting (a) a shear stress of not more than about 1 Pa at a shear rate of 20 s^{-1}, and (b) optionally, a multimodal particle size distribution,;** and a step of admixing the selected pregelatinized starch with a drug of low water solubility to provide an admixture.

25. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 24 wherein the drug is a selective cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitory drug.

26. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 25 wherein the selective cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitory drug is valdecoxib.

27. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 24, further comprising a step of wet granulating the admixture with one or more diluents, a step of drying the resulting granules, and a step of compressing the resulting dry granules to form a tablet.

28. (Withdrawn) A method of improving drug release rate consistency among pharmaceutical tablets prepared within a single manufacturing campaign, said tablets comprising pregelatinized starch and a drug having low water solubility, wherein the method comprises a step of selecting, for use in said tablets, a pregelatinized starch ~~having low viscosity and/or exhibiting a multimodal particle size profile~~ **exhibiting**

(a) a shear stress of not more than about 1 Pa at a shear rate of 20 s^{-1}, and (b) optionally, a multimodal particle size distribution.

29. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a medical condition or disorder in a subject where treatment with a cyclooxygenase-2 inhibitor is indicated, the method comprising orally administering to the subject a composition of claim 3 once or twice a day.

30. (New) The composition of claim 1 wherein the shear stress of the pregelatinized starch is determined according to the following test:

(a) placing 1 gram of the pregelatinized starch in a 20 ml glass scintillation vial at room temperature;

(b) adding 10 ml of water at room temperature to the vial to form a mixture of the starch and the water;

(c) vortexing the mixture for 1 minute and then stirring the mixture for 2 hours at 500 rpm on an orbital stirrer;

(d) placing a 2 gram sample of the stirred mixture in a rotational viscometer;

(e) measuring the dynamic viscosity of the sample under conditions wherein the viscometer is operated to increase the shear rate on the sample from 0 s^{-1} to 100 s^{-1} over a period of 3 minutes; and

(f) determining the shear stress for the sample from the measured dynamic viscosity.